

OPINION
55-47

November 22, 1955 (OPINION)

DRIVER'S LICENSE LAW

RE: Plea of Guilty Under Municipal Ordinance as Conviction

We hereby acknowledge receipt of your request for an opinion construing chapter 251 of the 1955 Session Laws with regard to the question of whether a plea of guilty to a charge of reckless driving in violation of a municipal ordinance constitutes a conviction.

Charges under municipal ordinances are quasi-criminal in nature and in order to determine whether the word "conviction" is intended to apply to municipal ordinances, it is necessary to examine its use throughout the law to be construed.

We find in section 28 of chapter 251, Session Laws 1955, that the word "conviction" is used in reference to courts having jurisdiction over offenses committed under municipal ordinances. It is therefore the opinion of this office that a plea or finding of guilty of an offense under a municipal ordinance is a "conviction" as that term is used in chapter 251.

LESLIE R. BURGUM

Attorney General